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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 IO-06 SP-02 H-01 NSC-05 L-01
PM-03 DODE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 PA-01
ICA-01 TRSE-00 /050 W
----------118678 091452Z /64
R 081625Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9219
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
USMISSION GENEVA

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, MILI, GE, GW, WB
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL CHARGES ABOUT NARCOTICS
REACHING U.S. FORCES

REF: (A) BERLIN 3802, (B) USBERLIN 1305,
(C) STATE 140603

1. THE EMBASSY WISHES TO REINFORCE USBERLIN OBSERVA-
TIONS MADE REF B AND EMPHASIZE OUR OWN CONCERN WITH
SOME IMPLICATIONS OF THE PRESS GUIDANCE SET FORTH IN
REF A. WE ARE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED WITH TWO ASPECTS:

(A) A CONTINUED USE OF THE 1100 LBS. FIGURE WITHOUT
ANY CLARIFICATION OF HOW THIS ESTIMATE WAS ARRIVED AT.
1100 LBS. IS ALMOST AS MUCH HEROIN AS WAS SEIZED IN
ALL OF WEST EUROPE LAST YEAR. WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE
FROM DEA OR ANY OTHER SOURCE TO SUPPORT SUCH AN AMOUNT
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ARRIVING IN WEST BERLIN. AN EXPLANATION, WHICH COULD
BE MADE PUBLIC, OF HOW DEA ARRIVED AT THIS FIGURE
WOULD BE HELPFUL;

(B) THE IMPLICATION (EVEN IF 1100 LBS. WERE VALID) THAT
THIS AMOUNT CAME FROM THE GDR AND EAST BERLIN. WE
CERTAINLY HAVE EVIDENCE OF HEROIN TRANSHIPPED THROUGH

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EAST BERLIN, AND THE GDR; BUT NONE THAT SUSTAINS THIS FIGURE. AND WE HAVE ENOUGH INDICATIONS TO REALIZE HEROIN COMES INTO THE CITY FROM OTHER LOCALES OUTSIDE OF THE GDR AND EAST BERLIN. STRESSING EAST BERLIN AS THE HEROIN SOURCE REINFORCES THOSE WEST BERLIN ELEMENTS WHICH CLAIM WEST BERLIN ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS CAN HAVE LITTLE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT BECAUSE OF THE CITY'S VULNER-ABILITY TO SHIPMENTS FROM THE EAST, A CLAIM WITH WHICH WE DISAGREE. FOCUSING ENTIRELY ON EAST BERLIN ALSO UNDERMINES OUR EFFORTS IN WEST BERLIN TO EXAMINE ALL AVENUES OF HEROIN ENTRY INTO THE CITY.

2. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO NOTE THAT THE DEA SPECIAL AGENT IN BONN RECENTLY PASSED THROUGH SCHONEFELD, THE EAST BERLIN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON HIS WAY FROM TURKEY TO GERMANY. HE FOUND TIGHTER CUSTOMS CONTROLS THAN HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY ALLEGED BY WEST BERLIN SOURCES. THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT HEROIN IS NOT COMING INTO WEST BERLIN VIA SCHONEFELD BUT MAY INDICATE THAT SCHONEFELD MIGHT NOT BE AS WIDE AN "OPEN DOOR" AS MANY IN WEST BERLIN HAVE BEEN LED TO BELIEVE. THE SCHONEFELD ISSUE DOES POINT OUT THE DANGER OF DRAWING CONCLUSIONS FROM INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE INVOLVING AN ISSUE BOTH COMPLEX AND UNCLEAR. CONTINUED EFFORTS AND ADDITIONAL SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE ARE CRITICAL BEFORE A WELL-DEFINED PICTURE OF TRAFFICKING PATTERNS CAN EMERGE.
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3. EMBASSY WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE MATERIAL REQUESTED IN REFTEL B, PARA 7.
STOESSEL

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